

M E M O R A N D U M

RECEIVED
Field Operations Section ✓

MAY 13 1975

Environmental Protection Agency
State of Illinois

ST. CLAIR COUNTY - SWIFT AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS
(Fairmont)

TO: Division of Water Pollution Control, Field Operations Section

FROM: Eric W. Merz, Collinsville Unit

DATE: March 7, 1975

INTERVIEWED: Mr. Robert Britt, Plant Manager

US EPA RECORDS CENTER REGION 5



486280

On the above date the writer visited the subject industry in response to a phone call from Mr. Marvin King, Agency biologist.

Mr. King was performing biological stream survey work in the area when he observed that the water in the drainage way adjacent to the industry was green.

At the time of the writer's visit the water in the drainage way was relatively clear. Conversation with Plant Manager Robert Britt revealed, however, that runoff from the plant grounds does occasionally cause the water in the drainage way to become green. Mr. Britt said the green color is from a dye that is used to color fertilizer manufactured at the plant. Mr. Britt did not know the chemical composition of the dye.

The writer informed Mr. Britt of possible violations of law due to the discoloration of the waterway and asked that steps be taken to control the dye. Mr. Britt indicated all possible measures would be taken to insure that the dye stays within the plant and not accidentally spilled where it might be washed away.

The writer will return to the facility in the near future. If discoloration is found a sample will be collected, pictures will be taken, and an appropriate letter will be forwarded to the industry.

The above is for your information.

EWM/cas
5/8/75

cc: Region IV

[Handwritten signature]

LWE